

App. No. 10/065,185
Amendment B
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): ~~An apparatus~~ A redundant bus controller (RBC) for controlling access to a bus, comprising:

a peer coupling configured to communicate state information of the RBC to another bus controller for coordinating control of a bus between a plurality of system hosts;

a control and status register configured to retain the state information of the RBC; and

a sequencer configured to transition the state of the apparatus RBC according to the state information retained in the control and status register.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): ~~The apparatus~~ redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 23, further comprising[[:]]

a register interface coupled with an arbiter.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): ~~The apparatus~~ redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 24, wherein the ~~register interface includes an arbiter-state~~ is configured to define the state of the RBC.

Claim 26 (New): The redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 24, further comprising an external bus interface to provide software access to the register interface.

Claim 27 (New): The redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 23, wherein the RBC is coupled to the bus and is configured to transition into and out of control to allow a system host to control the bus.

App. No. 10/065,185
Amendment B
Page 3

Claim 28 (New): The redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 27, wherein the RBC is configured to allow a system host to control a peripheral device on the bus.

Claim 29 (New): The redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 23, wherein the RBC is configured to coordinate control of the bus by the plurality of system hosts.

Claim 30 (New): The redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 29, wherein the RBC is configured to coordinate control of the bus in the event of failure of one of the plurality of system hosts.

Claim 31 (New): The redundant bus controller as claimed in claim 23, wherein the peer coupling is configured to allow the RBC to signal a disconnecting state to the other bus controller.